

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville



Daryl Davis (above, in front) last year thrilled a packed house at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. He returns as part of this year’s entertainment.

Rockville Celebrates MLK Jr. on Jan. 20

Rockville’s 31st annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration will be hosted by the Mayor and Council and the City’s Human Rights Commission on Monday, Jan. 20, at 12 noon at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

The theme of this year’s celebration is “Living the Dream: Stories of the Civil Rights Movement in Rockville: A Multimedia Event.” The event includes stories of the civil rights struggle in Rockville told through film, photographs and live speakers.

University of Maryland professor Ira Berlin will be a guest speaker. The event will include musical performances by former Rockville resident Daryl Davis, who has traveled the world playing with numerous musical groups. Singer Geraldine Brown also will perform.

Berlin has written broadly on the history of slavery and emancipation in the United States and the larger Atlantic world. His first book, *Slaves Without Masters: The Free Negro in the Antebellum South* (1975), won the Best First Book Prize awarded by the National Historical Society. Berlin is the founder of the Freedmen and Southern Society Project, which he directed until 1991. In 1999, the Humanities Council of Washington named Berlin the Outstanding Public Humanities Scholar of the Year. He is currently president of the Organization of American Historians.

As part of the program, the Human Rights Commission will present the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award to a middle or high school student who has helped advance the goals and dreams of Dr. King. The commission also will name the winner of this year’s F. Michael Taft Award, which recognizes the efforts of a group or individual within the City to reduce the barriers that restrain the full participation of those with disabilities.

The event is wheelchair accessible and sign language interpreted. A reception will follow. Call 240-314-8600 for more information or check the City’s Web site at www.ci.rockville.md.us. [RR](#)

City Moves Toward Town Center Agreement

The City of Rockville took major steps toward setting in motion the development of a new Town Center as the Mayor and Council unanimously approved several measures at their General Session on Dec. 16.

For much of the past two years, the City has been working with Montgomery County and developer Federal Realty Investment Trust (FRIT) to create a plan that will initiate the redevelopment of more than 60 acres of prime downtown land into a vibrant Town Center. The project will include the new Rockville Regional Library, a Town Square public area, and will have a mix of retail, office, residential, restaurant and entertainment uses. Three parking garages would accommodate more than 1,700 cars.

The Mayor and Council spurred implementation of the plan by approving execution of a non-binding letter of intent between the City, county and FRIT to move ahead with development plans. The construction will begin in the fall of 2003. The opening of

two major aspects of the redevelopment — the relocated library and the first of the parking garages — will be in summer of 2005.

“I see this as an opportunity to see dreams fulfilled,” said Councilmember Susan Hoffmann.

The plan currently calls for \$219 million in private investment and \$97.5 million in public investment.

“The private investment would be about 70 percent to a public investment of 30 percent,” Art Chambers, Rockville’s director of Community Planning and Development Services told the Mayor and Council. “Typically a ratio of 60 percent private to 40 percent public is considered good. So we have done much better than that.”

Throughout the planning process, the Mayor and Council were concerned about the 23 merchants located in the FRIT-owned shopping center on North Washington Street anchored by a Magruder’s grocery store. The Mayor and Council have presented the tenants with an exten-

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sive transitional proposal that provides financial assistance if those businesses relocate to another location, decide to temporarily close until they could gain new Town Center space or elect to close permanently.

Mayor Larry Giammo said having those businesses relocate in the new Town Center is an important part of the plan. Overall, he was “very confident” that Town Center is off to a good start.

“We are not just developing the block between Beall Avenue and Middle Lane,” said Mayor Giammo. “This is really the catalyst for the redevelopment of the rest of Town Center. ... I really hope that once we get this project going that it will provide confidence to other developers. To sum it all up, I am very excited.” [RR](#)

African American Writers to Be Honored by ‘The Finest!’

The City of Rockville’s *The Finest!* Youth Performance Troupe will honor some of history’s African American writers during the Eighth Annual African American Heritage Production at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre on Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

The performance will include poetry, dance, passionate expressions, soul-stirring movements and renditions of poetry and prose from great writers such as Langston Hughes.

Each year *The Finest!* dedicates countless hours to prepare for the African American Heritage Production. The troupe is comprised of stu-

dents who receive extensive training in dance and other areas to sharpen their artistic talents.

“The students participating are very serious about their craft,” said Karen Rawlins of the City’s Department of Recreation and Parks, and director of the performance. “They learn through intense workshops in conjunction with KhamKam Productions. They are very well trained.”

Along with Rawlins, Kashi-Tara Barrett and Kelly Chauncy also will direct this year’s production. Each year the performances include acting and dancing, but the theme of the productions vary from



The Finest! perform during a past production.

year to year. Some of the past performances have included a tribute to gospel and African Americans on Broadway.

Tickets for the performances are \$7 (general admission) and \$5 (ages 12-under and 60-over) and can be purchased by calling the F. Scott Fitzgerald box office at 240-314-8690. [RR](#)

January’s Best of Rockville

3,4 National Chamber Orchestra. 8p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Jody Gatwood, violin; Bach Concerto No. 1 in A minor; Makris, Concerto for Violin and Strings; Tchaikovsky, Serenade for Strings. Tickets \$37, \$27, \$17. Call for tickets: 240-314-8690.

5-28 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Katie Dell Kaufman, assemblages; Beverly Ryan, paintings. Artist talk on Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m.

13 Campaign Policy Public Hearing. 7:30. Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall.

20 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration. (See above story)

30 Wake Up, Groundhog. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 3-6 years. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents. Croydon Creek Nature Center.

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CPA Keri L. Woodworth (left) volunteered during last year's tax assistance program and helped Sophia Fuchs, one of more than 150 residents who utilized the program.

City Helps With Tax Preparation

The City of Rockville realizes that preparing taxes can be a daunting task, so the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services is offering free tax preparation assistance every Tuesday through tax day, April 15. The City has been providing this special and much-needed service for more than 25 years.

In cooperation with the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, volunteer tax advisors with extensive preparation experience will be available to citizens who make appointments in advance by calling 240-314-8310. Tax preparation will be held from 7:30-9 p.m. at 32 Courthouse Square in Rockville.

This will be the 26th year that Stan Seemann, a certified public accountant, organizes the group

of volunteers—most of whom are CPAs. The program has helped prepare 150-200 returns annually in recent years.

“It is a wonderful program that uses volunteers to do the returns for our residents who cannot afford to pay for this necessary service,” said Mandy Smith, a Youth, Family Specialist for Rockville’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

Preparers can identify low-income residents who may be eligible for an Earned Income Credit (EIC), which will reduce taxes and may result in a refund.

Electronic filing is available for no extra charge.

For further information call 240-314-8310. Seniors and homebound residents eligible to receive this service may call 301-468-4179 for additional assistance. [RR](#)

Fore! Three, Two, One — Prices Drop at RedGate for Winter



RedGate Municipal Golf Course boasts some of the finest public 18 holes in the greater Washington area.

Who needs a mild, 75-degree day to shoot a round of 18 holes?

Winter golfing can be just as fun – and a great workout for those in search of a reasonable outdoor winter activity. Plus, the City of Rockville’s RedGate Golf Course is offering a great incentive to play winter golf: reduced rates on one of the Washington area’s top municipal courses.

RedGate, which is located at 14500 Avery Road, is open year-round, but it will never be a better bargain than it will be through March 15. RedGate’s winter rate green fees are:

- 18 holes: City resident \$19; nonresident \$22

- 9 holes: City resident \$11; non-resident \$13.

The rates are the same on weekdays and weekends. Carts are additional in all cases.

For those who thought they had retired their clubs until the spring, RedGate’s Golf Pro and General Manager Kieron Mooney says that playing in the winter affords many advantages.

“The course is much less busy,” Mooney said. “Plus, there are incredible discounts available when the winter rates are in effect.”

If there is no snow on the ground, and provided golfers bundle up for the day, the course conditions could prove to be first-class.

“We do a great job of blowing all the leaves off of the fairways and putting greens,” Mooney said. “So losing a golf ball is less likely. Plus, the putting surface is fast and true.”

And if there is snow on the course, simply bring a brightly colored golf ball, boots, plenty of warm clothes, and plan on playing at a brisk pace to keep warm.

Since winter rules are in effect, golfers are entitled to place their ball one club length everywhere except hazards, bunkers and putting greens.

Call 240-314-8730 for more information or to check conditions. [RR](#)

Focus On HISTORIC DESIGNATION

Preserves Past, Saves Owners Cash

Rockville has many new and ongoing programs that can influence the lives of residents. On a regular basis, “Focus On” will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they could have for City residents.

A program spurred by the Mayor and Council this year to increase the number of Rockville properties with historic designations has already made a significant impact in helping preserve some of the City’s cherished homes. But in addition to the City, big winners in this program include owners of eligible homes who will save considerable money through the tax incentives that come with a historic designation.

Over the past two years, a dozen Rockville properties have been designated historic by the Mayor and Council and the number is expected to increase significantly in 2003.

The State of Maryland provides an income tax credit equal to 20 percent of approved exterior and interior historic rehabilitation costs. These costs can include everything from remodeling kitchens and bathrooms to updating electrical and plumbing systems. Montgomery County provides an additional 10 percent in property tax credit for approved exterior maintenance and restoration costs.

Income-producing properties also are eligible for a 20 percent federal income tax credit.

The designation process requires no fees of property owners. Owners may nominate their property, which must be 50 years or older to qualify, by filling out a form available at City Hall or by calling the Historic Preservation Office at 240-314-8230. Information is also available on the City’s Web site at www.ci.rockville.md.us.

Last year, one homeowner on West Montgomery Avenue submitted almost \$20,000 worth of eligible receipts for repairs and painting resulting in \$2,000 in county property tax savings and another \$4,000 in state income tax credit for exterior work alone. [RR](#)



Rockville Police Offer Seniors a Unique Opportunity at Specialized Academy

The City of Rockville Police Department has long been known for its innovative approach to community policing, as evidenced by its car seat safety program, teddy bear ride-along program, victim advocate initiative and more.

Another way the Police Department has broken new ground is through the Senior Citizen Police Academy, which will begin its fourth year on Jan. 8 at the Rockville Senior Center.

Many local police departments conduct a comprehensive police academy open to all citizens – and Rockville has one, too – but very few in the area have one dedicated solely to senior citizens.

“The academy is geared toward what the senior population wants to know,” said Ken Matney, Rockville’s Community Services Officer, who facilitates the City’s program.

Some of the topics covered in the Senior Citizen Police Academy include crimes against the elderly, home security/personal safety, elder abuse, judicial system overview, the police role in the community and motor vehicle law/accidents.

The academy is free and



Graduates from last year’s Senior Citizen Police Academy pose with Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk (top row, right) and Community Services Officer Ken Matney (top row, left).

classes will be held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon through Feb. 26. Matney has arranged for guest speakers from the City, Maryland State Attorney’s Office and Montgomery County Adult Protective Services. As part of this winter’s program, Matney expects a volunteer from the county sheriff’s office to bring a bomb-searching dog from the K-9 unit.

“We have had a great response from those who have participated over the last couple of years,” Matney said.

“Like the regular citizen’s academy, it’s a perfect opportunity for people to gain some insight into law enforcement and ask questions they may not have the opportunity to otherwise ask. We will teach them the material, but we want to provide what they want. Questions are definitely welcome.”

For more information on the Senior Police Academy, call 240-314-8962.

Rockville’s regular citizen police academy will begin in the spring and also is available to any Rockville resident. [RR](#)

In Brief

A Few (Bike) Rules Of the Road

The City of Rockville’s Bikeway Implementation Specialist Debbie Mayer worked tirelessly throughout the fall to introduce the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program to several City elementary schools, and would like to extend some tips to the greater community. “There are many new multi-use trails in Rockville,” Mayer said, “and it’s important to know the rules of the road.” Here are some of Mayer’s suggestions: 1) Share the trail; 2) Remember pedestrians have the right-a-way; 3) All users should ALWAYS stay to the right of the trail; 4) Bicyclists should pull off the trail when stopping, give a yell or use bell when passing.

CALL 240-314-8626 FOR INFO

Summer Camp is Coming Right Up

The City of Rockville’s Summer Camp Guide will be mailed to residents Jan. 31, and registration begins Feb. 13. There are many camp options available for children ages 4 to 15 years old, including several one- and two-week camps that may have bus transportation and camp care available. Most camps begin in June, but slots fill quickly, so keep your eye out for the Summer Camp Guide.

CALL 240-314-8620 FOR INFO

Safe Winter Sidewalks

Now that the cold weather is upon us, Rockville’s Community Enhancement/Code Enforcement Division reminds residents that snow and ice on sidewalks and public paved areas is a hazard for all pedestrians, especially children and older adults. The City encourages everyone’s assistance to keep the sidewalks clear. The City’s Snow Ordinance requires that snow must be removed from all sidewalks, steps, driveways, parking spaces and the paved right of way sidewalk immediately fronting or abutting a property. This includes access ramps and curb cuts designed for use by persons with disabilities. Snow and ice removal must occur within 24 hours if the snowfall is less than 3 inches and within 48 hours if it surpasses 3 inches. The City code inspectors will enforce these regulations throughout the season. The fine for first offenses is \$100, and \$200 for each offense thereafter.

CALL 240-314-8330 FOR INFO

City of Rockville’s Winter Inclement Weather Policy

To find out whether a City meeting or Recreation program has been canceled due to the winter weather, the fol-

lowing radio and TV stations will broadcast all Rockville City government closings and delays. **Radio:** WTOP (1500 AM, 820 AM, 107.7 FM and 103.5 FM); WARW (94.7 FM); WRQX (107.3 FM); WFRE (99.9 FM and 930 AM); **TV:** WRC (Channel 4); Fox5-WTTG (Channel 5); and WJLA (Channel 7); News Channel 8 (Channel 8); and WUSA (Channel 9). The Rockville Recreation Inclement Weather hotline number is 240-314-5020.

CALL 240-314-8115 FOR INFO

Historic Video on Sale at City Hall

The City of Rockville video “Exploring Rockville’s Past” is an armchair tour of Rockville from 1801-1850 and is now available for purchase. The video follows the walking tour booklet tour to 16 sites and uncovers Rockville’s early beginnings. The video with brochure is \$10 and is available at the information desk at City Hall.

CALL 240-314-5000 FOR INFO

Continuing the Spirit of Giving

In the spirit of the City of Rockville’s Holiday Drive motto, “Take Part and Give from the Heart,” countless Rockville citizens, friends, families and workers made contributions so that more than 500 households received assistance during the Thanks-

giving and December holiday season. Additionally, 100 of the families were matched with sponsors who provided individualized family outreach. The Holiday Drive also co-sponsored several neighborhood holiday events so children would receive new toys. For Thanksgiving, the Holiday Drive provided 688 local households with food baskets, representing a 13 percent increase from the previous year. Many of the baskets were provided through Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Christ Episcopal School and the Basket Brigade. Richard Montgomery High School donated 3,500 cans of food and Robert Frost Middle School donated the proceeds of their annual Turkey Trot, which provided \$1,800 and 700 food items. More than 100 adult and youth volunteers assisted the City staff to sort, pack and distribute baskets at a site provided by Manna Food Center. But the season of giving is far from over – monetary donations are still urgently needed. Checks should be made payable to the Rockville Holiday Drive Fund and can be mailed to: Rockville Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, 32 Courthouse Sq., Rockville, Md. 20850.

CALL 240-314-8307 FOR INFO

Holiday Tree Recycling

During January, the Dept. of Public Works will collect holiday trees and wire-bound wreaths. Trees will be collected along with other recyclables. Please remove any stands, nails, decorations or tinsel, then place the tree at the curb. Do not use a plastic bag. Wire-bound wreaths should be placed at the curb along with regular refuse.

CALL 240-314-8568 FOR INFO

Para Ud.

Subsidios Para Mejoras en el Hogar

Los dueños de casas en Rockville que perciben ingresos bajos y moderados pueden solicitar subvenciones y préstamos para hacer las mejoras necesarias en sus hogares mediante el Programa de Mejoras Domiciliarias de Rockville. Estos subsidios se ofrecen para mejorar los sistemas eléctricos, de calefacción y de plomería del hogar. Los fondos, provenientes del Programa Global de Subvenciones para el Desarrollo de la Comunidad de los Estados Unidos, serán provistos por el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano y estarán administrados por los Servicios de la Planificación y Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad. Para conocer los requisitos para ser elegidos, los límites de los subsidios y cualquier otra información relacionada, se ruega llamar al 240-314-8208. — Translated by Victoria Imas-Duchovny

CITY
20 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration. 12 noon. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

21 The Town Center Action Team Meeting. 7 p.m. Red Brick Courthouse, Room 105.

25 Off-Leash Dog Testing. 10 a.m. Middle Lane parking lot. Tests if dogs can be walked without a leash. Call 240-314-8930 to register in advance.

ARTS
3,4 National Chamber Orchestra. 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Jody Gatwood, violin; Bach Concerto No. 1 in A minor; Makris, Concerto for Violin and Strings; Tchaikovsky, Serenade for Strings. Tickets \$37, \$27, \$17. Call for tickets 240-314-8690.

5-28 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Katie Dell Kaufman, assemblages; Beverly Ryan, paintings. Reception is Jan. 5, 1-4 p.m.; Artist Talk is Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m. Guided Tour is Jan. 17, 10 a.m. Call for information 240-314-8682.

5 Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert, “Harps, Harps, Harps,” 2 p.m. Sue Richards, Jo Morrison, Sharon Knowles on Celtic Harps. Free. Call for information 240-314-8682.

10,11,17,18,19, 24,25 Rockville Little Theatre, “The Rainmaker.” All shows at 8 p.m., except 19th at 2 p.m. Tickets \$12. Call for tickets 240-314-8690.

january calendar of events

14-24 Auditions for Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra. Weekly rehearsals Tuesdays 5:30-6:45 p.m. Spring season runs Feb. 4-June 1. Call for information 240-314-8682.

26 Rockville Concert Band, Chamber Ensemble Concert. 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Free. Call for information 240-314-8681.

NATURE CENTER
10 Tyke Hike, Winter Wonderland. 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5 years. \$2 residents/\$3 nonresidents.

11 Bugs in Winter. 10-11 a.m. All ages. \$2 residents/\$3 nonresidents.

15 Penguins on Parade. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Ages 3-5 years. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents.

16 Tiny Tot Walk, Winter Wonderland. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 1 1/2 to 2 years. \$2 residents/\$3 nonresidents.

17 Owl Prowl. 8-9 p.m. All ages. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents.

24 Identify Trees without Leaves. 10-11 a.m. Ages 16 and older. \$2 residents/\$3 nonresidents.

29 A Birding Hot List Trip. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 18 and older. \$10 residents/\$12 nonresidents.

30 Wake Up, Groundhog. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 3-6 years. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents.

SENIORS
8 January Birthday and New Year Party. 1:30-3 p.m. Free. Register by Jan. 2.

9 In Person Lottery for Winter Trips. 10:15 a.m.

13 Quilters’ Group. 1-3 p.m. Register by Jan. 8. Material fee \$5.

15 Organize Now for the New Year. 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. Registration fee \$5 members/\$8 nonmembers. Register by Jan. 8.

15 Classical Music with Murray. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. Register by Jan. 12.

16 Photography: Joy of Spring. 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Register by Jan. 2.

16 Young In Heart Senior Club Meeting. 11 a.m.

16 Readers’ Group. 7-8 p.m. Free. Register by Jan. 9.

21 The Beauty of Japan: A Slide Show. 10:30 a.m.- 12 noon. Free. Register by Jan. 16.

28 Experimental Watercolor Techniques. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Tuesdays through Feb. 18. Registration \$20 members/\$25 nonmembers. Register by Jan. 21.

30 Watercolor-Advanced. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Thursdays through

March 6. Registration \$28 members/\$35 nonmembers. Register by Jan. 20.

30 Herbal Delights. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Material fee \$6. Register by Jan. 21.

TEENS
7,14,21 Teen Lounge. Tuesdays at Lincoln Park Community Center for students in grades 6-12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

8,15,22,29 Teen Activity Center. Wednesdays at the Montrose Community Center for students in grades 6-12 from 6-9 p.m.

17 Teen Club Dance, Lincoln Park Community Center. 8-11 p.m. Grades 6-12. \$2 members/\$5 for nonmembers.

20 Ski Whitetail Trip. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers.

27 Snow Tubing and Dinner. 3-9 p.m. \$25 members/\$30 nonmembers.

28 Ski Liberty Trip. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Lift only, \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers; Lift & rental, \$80 members/\$95 nonmembers; Lift, rental, and lesson, \$100 members/\$120 nonmembers.

31 Teen Club Dance, Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. 7:30-10 p.m. Grades 6-8. \$2 members/\$5 nonmembers.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETINGS
4 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m.

8 Cultural Arts Commission, 7:30 p.m.

8 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

14 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., 32 Courthouse Square

14 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center Board Room

15 Rockville Housing Enterprises (Housing Authority) 6:30 p.m., Commissioners Board Room, 14 Moore Dr.

16 Historic District Commission, 7 p.m.

22 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

22 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

23 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Rockville Senior Center

23 Recreation and Park Advisory Board, 7 p.m.

27 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m.

30 Retirement Board, 5:30 p.m.

Rockville Up Close: **New Commission on Environment**

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

Rockville’s Mayor and Council have created a new Citizen’s Commission on the Environment that will provide advice on policies and programs that affect all residents, businesses and people who commute into the City for employment.

Ira Feldman has been appointed as the first chairperson of the nine-member commission. All commission members will be appointed by the Mayor and Council.

The Commission on the Environment will provide



The Croydon Creek represents one of Rockville’s many important natural environments that must be protected.

guidance on issues relating to the environment, watershed stewardship and protection, natural resource management, energy efficiency, pollution prevention and public education.

The Commission on the Environment succeeds the recently disbanded Commission on Science, Technology and En-

vironment. The new commission will provide more individualized attention to issues involving the environment.

“This is not like we are starting from scratch,” said Feldman. “This will build upon the visioning process that already has started. Now the Mayor and Council will have a

commission they can rely on and the group itself will be able to focus on environmental issues.”

The commission chairman said one specific focus of the group will be to develop a “sustainable community” framework for Rockville. In that effort, the commission will examine Rockville’s current environmental status and consumption of resources. It will then map long-term plans to conserve and improve in those areas to preserve Rockville’s resources for future generations.

All Rockville residents, including college students and high school seniors, are eligible for consideration as appointees to the commission. For further information, contact the City Clerk’s Office at 240-314-8280. [RR](#)

Campaign Policies On the Stump

Jan. 13 Public Hearing Open for Debate on Proposed Debates

Changes, and in some instances, clarifications of policies for City of Rockville elections will be the subject of a Monday, Jan. 13, public hearing before the Mayor and Council at City Hall. The public hearing will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be televised live on The Rockville Channel.

Among the notable issues the Mayor and Council are considering for adoption are:

- Holding up to three issue-driven public forums or debates between candidates for City offices. The events will be televised live, if possible, and later re-broadcast by The Rockville Channel (cable channel 11). The forums or debates will be sponsored/ hosted by independent, non-

- partisan organizations.
- Allowing declared candidates for Rockville offices to march in the City’s annual Memorial Day Parade. [Previously, only incumbent office holders were permitted to march. Elected officials from areas outside of Rockville will continue to be allowed in the parade, but candidates for those offices who are not office holders can not be in the line of march.]
- Barring political ads from City publications

Following the 2001 City election, the Mayor and Council set five goals for their term. One of those goals, “Community Identity and Pride,” included the objective to review

and revise the Rockville’s campaign policies.

The Mayor and Council have discussed campaign policy reviews at four public sessions over the past year, including at the Dec. 9 general session. At that meeting, it was decided a public hearing should be held before a resolution is considered for adoption.

The issues that are part of the proposed campaign policies resolution are different from issues being studied by the Charter Review Commission that was appointed in the summer of 2001. Recommendations of that commission will be discussed at a Jan. 14 worksession and at a Jan. 21 public hearing. [RR](#)

Mayor & Council Drop-In

The Mayor and one member of the Council are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Mondays when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk’s Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change. In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled for January are:

- **Jan. 13 (Mon.)**, Bob Dorsey
- **Jan. 21 (Tues.)**, John Hall, Jr.
- **Jan. 27 (Mon.)**, Susan Hoffmann



Councilmember Bob Dorsey

Log on to
www.ci.rockville.md.us for the Mayor and Council meeting minutes and agendas.

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General and Work Sessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel.

- **Jan. 13 (Mon.)**, General Session, 7:30 p.m.
- **Jan. 14 (Tues.)**, Worksession, 7:30 p.m.
- **Jan. 21 (Tues.)**, Public Hearing (if needed), 7:30 p.m.
- **Jan. 25 (Sat.)**, Worksession (tentative), 9 a.m., King Farm Homestead Plan
- **Jan. 27 (Mon.)**, General Session, 7:30 p.m.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking volunteers for the following:


- Commission on the Environment (*new*)
- Cultural Arts Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one for consumer representative)
- Landlord/Tenant (one for landlord)
- Retirement Board

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.

Rockville’s FY04 Mayor & Council Budget Schedule

- **Feb. 3** - Mayor and Council budget issues worksession #1.
- **Feb. 18** - Mayor and Council budget issues worksession #2.
- **April 14** - Presentation to the Mayor and Council and introduction of the budget and utility rates.
- **April 28** - Budget public hearing #1.
- **May 5** - Budget public hearing #2.
- **May 13** - Budget worksession #1.
- **May 20** - Budget worksession #2.
- **May 28** - Budget worksession #3.
- **June 9** - Budget and utility rates adoptions by the Mayor and Council.

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL JANUARY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Community Mediation	Town Center	Annual Report	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Annual Report	Town Center	Exploring Rockville's Past
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▾	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▾
9 am	▾	Annual Report	Cultural Diversity ▾	Annual Report	Cultural Diversity ▾	Responsive & Responsible: Rockville City Government	▾
9:30 am	▾	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▾	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▾	Exploring Rockville's Past	▾
10 am	▾	Cultural Diversity ▾	Annual Report	Cultural Diversity ▾	Annual Report	Annual Report	▾
10:30 am	▾	▾	Responsive & Responsible: Rockville City Government	▾	Town Center	Cultural Diversity ▾	▾
11 am	Cityline	Exploring Rockville's Past	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Town Center	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▾	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾
4 pm	Cultural Diversity	▾	Cultural Diversity	Cultural Diversity	▾	Cultural Diversity	▾
4:30 pm	▾	Annual Report	▾	▾	Annual Report	▾	Preserving the Past
5 pm	Annual Report	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Annual Report	Annual Report	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Annual Report	Annual Report
5:30 pm	Town Center	Exploring Rockville's Past	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Exploring Rockville's Past	Community Mediation	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▾	Senior Center	Community Mediation	Planning Commission ▾	Community Mediation	Senior Center	Town Center
7:30 pm		Mayor & Council ▾	Cultural Diversity ▾		Cultural Diversity ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Annual Report
8 pm							Caregivers (Adult Homeless)
8:30 pm			Caregivers (Adult Homeless)		Caregivers (Adult Homeless)		Cultural Diversity ▾
9 pm			Town Center		Town Center		
9:30 pm			Cityline		Cityline		Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Town Center	Annual Report	Town Center	Annual Report	Town Center	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Community Mediation
11:30 pm	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Community Mediation	Exploring Rockville's Past	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Senior Center



Mayor
LARRY GIAMMO

Councilmembers
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JOHN F. HALL, JR.
SUSAN R. HOFFMANN
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